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MUSICAL AND GENERAL GOSSIP.

At Berlin Chapel Master Taubert has been celebrating the 23th anniversary of his holding that high position, and all ranks have been seeking to do him honor. The Queen of Prussia sent him a pleasant congratulatory telegram; the Prince of Schwartzbourg-Sonderhausen, sent him a decoration; the Chapel Royal gave him a magnificent album, encrusted with gold; and the artists of the opera gave him a baton of the same precious metal, to say nothing of all the smaller things he received.

M. Walter, at Berlin, obtained great success in the role of Arnold in *Guillaume Tell*, and was vociferously applauded and called before the curtain. This ovation had such an effect upon M. Walter that he was unable to proceed, and utterly broke down during the last of the opera.

The tenor Nachbaur has made a fine debut in Berlin. The public is charmed with his fine, pure voice, and the critics declare that he brings out nightly new beauties of the authors.

Mlle. Bettetheim, so long a favorite at the Court Theatre of Vienna, is about to marry M. Julius Gomberts, a merchant of Bremen, and, as a consequence, leave the stage, where she has occupied so commendable a place.

The Sangerbund of Cologne has just given a fine concert for the benefit of L'œuvre Nationale de Ferdinand Freiligrath, under the direction of F. Gersheim. It was a fine success.

The Italian Government has decided to continue the subventions to the opera.

The French press says that Italian opera will be given at the Crystal Palace, London, on the occasion of the visit there of Abdul Medjid, the Sultan of Turkey.

At Geneva the long contested suit between M. Durantin, author of *Heloise Parquet*, and M. Rouband, the manager, has been decided in favor of the first, so that M. Rouband will have to pay up all the accumulated "author's rights," making quite a heavy sum.

At Paris, M. Martinet, the manager of the Theatre Fantaisie-Parisiennes, will soon bring out a comic opera in one act by M. M. Jules Barbier, and Michael Carre, the music by M. Ed Hantz, entitled *L'Amour Monille*.

The noted composer for the piano forte, Louis Diemar, has been entering upon the sea of matrimony with Mlle. Berthe Serret. The affair occurred on the 26th of June at the Church of Saint Clotilde and was attended by all the musical talent of Paris.

As an honor to the memory of Malliot, the critic and composer, the Municipal Council of Rouen have voted the purchase of all his works and their deposit in the city library.

Agnesi has been giving a series of concerts at Caen, Arras, Amiens and Boulogne Sur Mer, assisted by Mmes. Zalvo Bedogni and Grossi. They sang from Semiramis and other fine operatic selections, but as *Le Menestrel* reports, received but parsimonious applause. In the more northern cities where they have just concluded their engagements the affair was quite different and they were received with enthusiasm, especially Mme. Zalvo Bedogni who made a great success in *La Romance de Mignon*.

M. Chas. Hess has been awakening great attention in the Chapel of the Universal Exposition with his fine organ seances, assisted with the superb voice of Mlle. Marie Godbert of Laval. The rendering of Neldmeyer's *O Salutaris* and Leon Hess' *Prrière du Soir* brought forth unbounded praise.

The Grand mass of M. F. Schawb, of Strasbourg, which has been for a long time in rehearsal, and elicited great attention, was performed on the 12th of June at the Church of the Pentecost at Colmar, under the direction of M. Siez. The executants were numerous and well chosen, and the *Courrier du Bas Rhin* says that the direction was intelligent and the interpretation fine. The composition is full of pure, simple and original melody; and science and harmony are carried out without pedantry, while the orchestration is carried out with delicate ornamentation. Altogether the notice it has elicited marks it as a leading production of the time.

M. Vidal, long known as a great violinist, and for some time orchestral chief of the Theatre Italien, Paris, under the administration of Severini, has just died in that city, at the age of 78.

The family of Halevy have just met with another loss in the person of M. Le Bas, architect and member of the Institute, who died at the age of 86. M. Le Bas was the grandfather of M. Leon Halevy.

At Vienna, the season at the Court Theatre commenced on the 1st July, with *Traviata*. The Tenor, Adam, of the Court Theatre, Berlin, took the role of *Maurice*, while the newly engaged cantatrice, Mlle. Guidole de Brunswick, was the *Azucena*, and Mlle. Carnis the *Leonore*.

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